

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

14. (Previously presented) Method for the detection of an analyte in a sample, comprising the steps:

- (a) preparing a solid phase on which a preformed conjugate of a poly(C₂-C₃)-alkylene oxide and an analyte-specific reactant that interacts with the analyte has been applied such that the preformed conjugate is immobilized in a test area,
- (b) incubating the sample with the solid phase and a detection reagent that provides a detectable indication of the presence or/and amount of the analyte, such that any analyte in the sample binds to the reactant bound to the solid phase and
- (c) detecting the presence or/and the amount of the analyte in the sample with the detectable indication,

wherein the solid phase is coated with a first member of a high affinity binding pair and said preformed conjugate is immobilized via said high affinity binding pair, wherein said

analyte specific reactant in said preformed conjugate is conjugated with a second member of said high affinity binding pair prior to application of said preformed conjugate to said solid phase.

Claims 15-60 (Canceled).

61. (Currently amended) Method as claimed in claim 14, wherein an said analyte-specific ~~modified solid phase~~ reactant is selected from analyte-specific antibodies, antigens, nucleic acids, nucleic acid analogues and lectins ~~is used~~.

62. (Previously Presented) Method as claimed in claim 14 wherein unspecific binding to the solid phase is reduced.

63. (Previously Presented) Method for detection of any analyte in a sample, comprising the steps:

- (a) forming a conjugate of a poly(C₂-C₃)- alkylene oxide and an analyte-specific reactant that interacts with the analyte, then
- (b) preparing a solid phase by applying thereto the conjugate of the poly(C₂-C₃)- alkylene oxide and the analyte-specific reactant that interacts with the analyte such that the conjugate is immobilized,

- (c) incubating the sample with the solid phase and a detection reagent that provides a detectable indication of the presence or/and amount of the analyte, such that any analyte in the sample binds to the reactant bound to the solid phase and
- (d) detecting the presence or/and the amount of the analyte in the sample with the detectable indication.

64. (Canceled)

65. (Canceled)

66. (Canceled)

67. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~66~~ 14, wherein the high affinity binding pair is selected from the group consisting of streptavidin, avidin/biotin, desthiobiotin, iminobiotin, aminobiotin, antidigoxigenin antibody/digoxigenin, and antifuorescein antibody/fluorescein.

68. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein after the solid phase has immobilized thereon the ~~modified~~ analyte specific ~~solid phase~~ reactant ~~which~~, said solid phase is incubated with a ~~further~~ an alkylene oxide modified ~~binding molecule~~ biomolecule which acts as a blocker.

69. (Currently amended) The method of claim 68, wherein the blocker ~~comprises non-analyte specific molecules~~ does not bind the analyte.
70. (Currently amended) The method of claim 69, wherein the ~~non-analyte specific molecules are~~ blocker is a proteins or polysaccharides.
71. (Currently amended) The method of claim 68, wherein the blocker binds to the ~~said~~ solid phase by adsorptive or covalent interactions.
72. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 71, wherein the blocker binds to the solid phase by coupling via high affinity binding pairs.
73. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein an alkylene oxide modified analyte specific reactant is used in combination with an alkylene oxide ~~modified~~ biomolecule which acts as a blocker.
74. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~said~~ solid phase is non-porous.
75. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein ~~an analyte specific region is immobilized on~~ said test area is a spatially limited test area.

76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, wherein the test area is a miniature test area having a diameter of 10 μm to 2 mm.

77. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the solid phase further comprises ~~several~~ additional test areas containing ~~different analyte-specific~~ solid phase reactants specific for additional analytes.